

CLAIMS

1. A cushioning device adapted for attachment to a shampoo bowl including a front wall having an inner surface and an outer surface, and a U-shaped, neck-receiving notch in the front wall, the cushioning device comprising:

a flexible cushion constructed of a matrix of formed cushioning pockets separated by seams, the flexible cushion including opposing proximal and distal extremities and a waist therebetween;

the waist adapted to overlies a segment of the U-shaped, neck receiving notch, the proximal extremity adapted to overlies a portion of the inner surface of the front wall, and the distal extremity adapted to overlies a portion of the outer surface of the front wall;

first means for detachably securing the proximal extremity of the cushion to the inner surface of the front wall; and

second means for detachably securing the proximal distal extremity of the cushion to the outer surface of the front wall;

wherein the cushioning pockets are adapted to provide a cushioning effect, and the seams are adapted to provide fluid conducting channels.

2. The cushioning device of claim 1, wherein the proximal and distal extremities of the cushion are enlarged relative to the waist and to the U-shaped, neck-receiving notch.

3. The cushioning device of claim 1, wherein the pockets are filled with air.

4. The cushioning device of claim 1, wherein the pockets are filled with viscous gel material.

5. The cushioning device of claim 1, wherein the first means comprises at least one suction cup attached to the proximal extremity of the flexible cushion for providing a suction cup coupling to the inner surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl.

6. The cushioning device of claim 1, wherein the first means comprises:

a hook medium attached to one of the inner surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl and the proximal extremity of the flexible cushion; and

a detachably engagable loop medium attached to the other one of the inner surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl and the proximal extremity of the flexible cushion.

7. The cushioning device of claim 1, wherein the second means comprises at least one suction cup attached to the distal extremity of the flexible cushion for providing a suction cup coupling to the outer surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl.

8. The cushioning device of claim 1, wherein the second means comprises:

a hook medium attached to one of the outer surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl and the distal extremity of the flexible cushion; and

a detachably engagable loop medium attached to the other one of the outer surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl and the distal extremity of the flexible cushion.

9. A shampoo bowl assembly comprising:

a shampoo bowl including a front wall having an inner surface and an outer surface, and a U-shaped, neck-receiving notch in the front wall;

a flexible cushion constructed of a matrix of formed cushioning pockets separated by seams, the flexible cushion including opposing proximal and distal extremities and a waist therebetween;

the waist overlying a segment of the U-shaped, neck receiving notch, the proximal extremity overlying a portion of the inner surface of the front wall, and the distal extremity overlying a portion of the outer surface of the front wall;

the pockets and seams directed away from the shampoo bowl;

first means for detachably securing the proximal extremity of the cushion to the inner surface of the front wall; and

second means for detachably securing the proximal distal extremity of the cushion to the outer surface of the front wall;

wherein the cushioning pockets are adapted to provide a cushioning effect, and the seams are adapted to provide fluid conducting channels.

10. The shampoo bowl assembly of claim 9, wherein the proximal and distal extremities of the cushion are enlarged relative to the waist and to the U-shaped, neck-receiving notch.

11. The shampoo bowl assembly of claim 9, wherein the pockets are filled with air.

12. The shampoo bowl assembly of claim 9, wherein the pockets are filled with viscous gel material.

13. The shampoo bowl assembly of claim 9, wherein the first means comprises at least one suction cup attached to the proximal extremity of the flexible cushion providing a suction cup coupling to the inner surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl.

14. The shampoo bowl assembly of claim 9, wherein the first means comprises:

a hook medium attached to one of the inner surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl and the proximal extremity of the flexible cushion;

a loop medium attached to the other one of the inner surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl and the proximal extremity of the flexible cushion; and

the hook medium detachably securing the loop medium.

15. The shampoo bowl assembly of claim 9, wherein the second means comprises at least one suction cup attached to the distal extremity of the flexible cushion providing a suction cup coupling to the outer surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl.

16. The shampoo bowl assembly of claim 9, wherein the second means comprises:

a hook medium attached to one of the outer surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl and the distal extremity of the flexible cushion;

a loop medium attached to the other one of the outer surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl and the distal extremity of the flexible cushion; and

the hook medium detachably securing the loop medium.

17. In a shampoo bowl including a front wall having an inner surface and an outer surface, and a U-shaped, neck-receiving notch in the front wall, a method comprising steps of:

providing a flexible cushion constructed of a matrix of formed cushioning pockets separated by seams, the flexible cushion including opposing proximal and distal extremities and a waist therebetween;

positioning the waist so as to overlies a segment of the U-shaped, neck receiving notch, positioning the proximal extremity so as to overlies a portion of the inner surface of the front wall, and positioning the distal extremity so as to overlies a portion of the outer surface of the front wall;

securing the proximal extremity of the cushion to the inner surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl; and

securing the distal extremity of the cushion to the outer surface of the front wall of the shampoo bowl;

wherein the pockets and the seams are directed away from the shampoo bowl.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the proximal and distal extremities of the cushion are enlarged relative to the waist and to the U-shaped, neck-receiving notch.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the pockets are filled with air.

20. The method of claim 17, wherein the pockets are filled with viscous gel material.